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Docket No. VIP00052

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Brendan LARDER, Sharon KEMP, Stuart BLOOR,)
and Ann BROPHY)
Serial No. : 09/640,787)
Filed : August 18, 2000)
Title : METHOD FOR MUTATION DETECTION IN HIV)
USING POL SEQUENCING)
Examiner : Ulrike Winkler)
Confirmation No.: 7344)

Art Unit 1648

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

FEB 03 2003

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the
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January 30, 2003

(Date of Deposit)

Jesús Juanós i Timoneda

(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

(Signature)

January 30, 2003

(Date of Signature)

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE "B"

Dear Sir:

In response to the final Office Action dated 08/13/2002 (hereinafter the "Office Action"), Applicants submit this response with an accompanying RCE and a petition for a three-month time extension and fee. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 1, between lines 2 and 3, add the following paragraph:

Cross Reference to Related Applications

This Application claims priority to European Application No. 00201433.0, filed April 20, 2000, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

In the Claims:

09640787

100750

02/05/2003 CTH/MAS2 00000001

01 FC:1202
02 FC:1201

252.00
84.00